SASSIE NEWS

Volume I 2004-05

Edition III December 2004

BREAKING NEWS

IDEA Reauthorization:

President Bush signed the "Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004" into law on Friday, December 3, 2004. All changes are effective July1, 2005, except for certain portions of the definition of "highly qualified" special education teachers aligning with No Child Left Behind Act. Those changes and certain parts of Part D will be effective as of the date of enactment. Changes are definitely recognizable, although the statute is not the sweeping overhaul that we saw in IDEA '97. The USOE will be utilizing opportunities to share the changes and discuss implications.

Recruiting:

An Education Specialist responsible for the Continuous Improvement Monitoring Process, UPIPS, will soon be opening at USOE. The job reports to an Educational Coordinator and requires a license in Special Education or related field. This employee will provide leadership in the continuing development and implementation of monitoring procedures to assess LEA compliance with IDEA and to resolve issues of non-compliance in a timely way. The specialist will provide training and statewide technical assistance to special education programs, administrators and teachers. Preference will be given for appropriate post-graduate degrees and also Administrative/Supervisory certificates. Please watch for this opening at www.usoe.k12.ut.us/hrm/jobs.htm. Go to UT State Job Listings, then Board of Education.

COMING EVENTS

<u>Severe Disabilities and Low-Functioning Autism</u> Institute:

January 13-14, 2005 Hampton Inn & Suites – Salt Lake Airport Severe Behavior with Melissa Genaux, Cindy Meyers, & Rob O'Neil

DATA

December 1 Child Counts:

December 1 Count 2004 is due ASAP. December 15, 2004 at 5:00 p.m. is the absolute deadline for submission to the Clearinghouse. Please submit immediately. This will allow me to extrapolate your report and fax it back to you for accuracy checks and signature.

FINANCES

<u>LEA Applications</u> were due long ago, and we are still waiting on a few of these to be submitted. Please submit ASAP so award documents can be sent out. Please notify Sandy Cox (801-538-7569) if you submitted your application with your District Consolidated Report for NCLB.

THOUGHTS THAT STICK

"Two things are bad for the heart--running up stairs and running down people". Bernard M. Baruch

